

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 27-28 and 32-35.

Amend claim 1 as shown in clean format below. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, all pending claims are presented below. A marked-up version of the amendments made in this response is submitted herewith.

1. (Twice Amended) A dryer comprising:

- a blower for generating an airstream,
- a heater for increasing a temperature of the airstream,
- an air outlet for outputting the airstream, said air outlet having a perimeter to area ratio greater than 2.5 inch^{-1} ; and,
- a housing containing said blower and said heater, said housing including a rear wall for mounting the dryer to a wall.

2. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 5 inch^{-1} .

3. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 2.5 and less than 7 inch^{-1} .

4. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said perimeter to area ratio is greater than 5 inch^{-1} and less than 7 inch^{-1} .

5. The dryer of claim 1 wherein said air outlet is circular.

6. The dryer of claim 1 wherein said air outlet has an air outlet length greater than an air outlet largest dimension.
7. The dryer of claim 6 wherein said air outlet is circular and has a length of about 3 to about 5 times larger than a diameter of the air outlet.
8. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a dryer housing having a rear wall for mounting said housing, said air outlet being angled towards said rear wall.
9. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a second air outlet.
10. The dryer of claim 1 wherein said blower generates an airstream having a velocity no less than 18,000 linear feet per minute.
11. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising sound absorbing material to reduce sound level.
12. The dryer of claim 11 wherein said sound absorbing material is positioned in a sound cavity to generate a plurality of reflections off said sound absorbing material.
14. (Amended) The dryer of claim 1 wherein said heater is located downstream from said blower.

15. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a motor coupled to said blower, said motor being a brushless motor.

16. The dryer of claim 1 further comprising a motor coupled to said blower, said motor being a brush-type motor.

17. (Amended) The dryer of claim 16 further comprising a surge suppressor in series with the brush motor to reduce starting current surge and to extend brush life, wherein said surge suppressor is a thermistor.

30. (Newly Added) The dryer of claim 1 wherein the area of said outlet is greater than 0.25 square inches.

31. (Newly Added) The dryer of claim 1 wherein the radius of said outlet is greater than 0.25 inches.

REMARKS

The title was considered not descriptive and has been amended.

Claims 1-9, 14 and 29-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Gilbertson in view of Sheridan. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 29. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to recite "a housing containing said blower and said heater, said housing including a rear wall for mounting the dryer to a wall." In applying